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**Florida House Democratic Caucus Takes Caucus Position
Against HB 1**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today, the House Democratic Caucus voted 41-0 to take a caucus position in opposition of HB 1. This stems from HB 1 being a threat to the First Amendment, is unnecessary, and is prone to abuse and misuse.

House Democratic Caucus leadership offered the following statements:

“Potentially criminalizing protest will harm Florida’s democracy. This bill creates a dangerous avenue for abuse, which will have lasting consequences on Floridians exercising their constitutional rights. HB 1 will disproportionately impact communities of color, those most likely to need to raise their voices for justice,” said **Co-Leader Bobby DuBose (D-Fort Lauderdale)**.

“It’s clear to us that this bill has a lot of problems on a lot of levels, to put it mildly. I’m happy the caucus has come together to fight against every bad idea in HB 1. America was built on protest and the state does not need to pass laws designed to silence the people’s voices,” said **Co-Leader Evan Jenne (D- Hollywood)**.

“We don’t take these votes lightly, but when a bill like HB 1 threatens the fundamental rights of all Floridians it is critical that we stand up and express our opposition. This bill should not become law in Florida,” said policy chair **Representative Fentrice Driskell (D- Tampa)**.

“Police and prosecutors across Florida already have tools in place to prosecute those who break the law. HB 1 is unnecessary and does not make Florida any safer. This is politics, not leadership,” said **Representative Ben Diamond (D- St. Petersburg)**.

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